

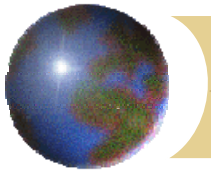
Beginning Your Family History Research

Family History Month

October 2008

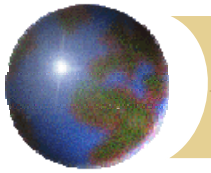
Leelyn Johnson

Reference Librarian



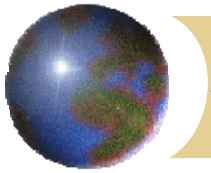
What Do You Want to Know?

- How thorough do you want to be?
 - Names and dates?
 - Places?
 - How far back?
 - Your direct line, or other family members as well?



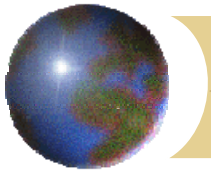
What Do You Know?

- Start with yourself and work backward:
 - Names, birth dates and places
 - Relationships
 - Marriages
 - Parents or children
 - Siblings
 - Where did they come from? When?
 - What were their lives like?



Start at Home

- Interview relatives
- Study family documents
 - ▣ Journals or diaries
 - ▣ Letters
 - ▣ Legal records
 - ▣ Newspaper clippings
 - ▣ Bibles
 - ▣ Photo albums



Organizing What You Know

- Helpful to work your way backward from recent information or what you know.
- Find an organizational style that works for you.
 - Be consistent with date and location formats.
- Use forms to put details down on paper.

Library of Michigan Pedigree Chart

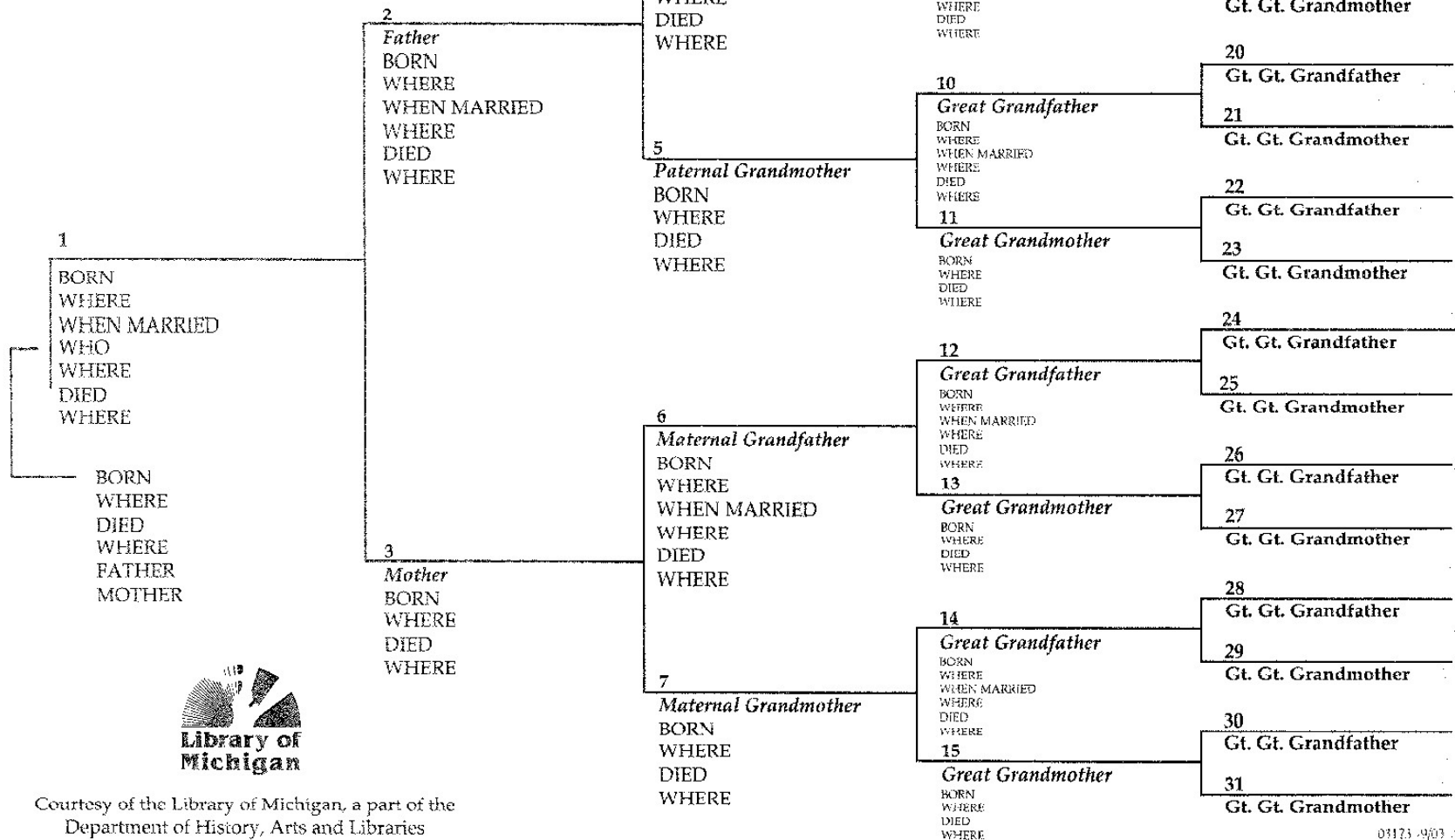
Date

Name

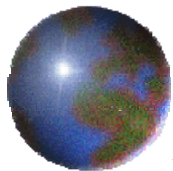
Street Address

City

State



Courtesy of the Library of Michigan, a part of the
Department of History, Arts and Libraries



Family Group Chart

Name _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Date _____
Sources of Information _____

HUSBAND'S NAME _____

Born _____ Where _____

Married _____ Where _____

Died _____ Where _____

Where Buried _____

Son of _____ and _____
(Father's Name) (Mother's Full Maiden Name)

Other Wives (if any) _____

WIFE'S FULL MAIDEN NAME _____

Born _____ Where _____

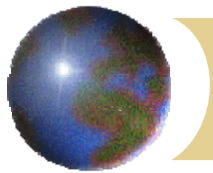
Died _____ Where _____

Where Buried _____

Daughter of _____ and _____
(Father's Name) (Mother's Full Maiden Name)

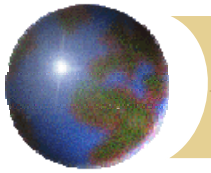
Other Husbands (if any) _____

Children and Their Spouses	Born Date, Locality	Marriage Date, Locality	Died Date, Locality	Where Buried
1. _____				
2. _____				
3. _____				
4. _____				
5. _____				
6. _____				
7. _____				
8. _____				
9. _____				



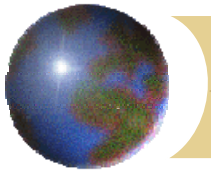
Filling Holes

- Identify holes in your information as you compile your family tree.
- Make a list of what you want to find out.
- It's good to have a starting point in mind.
- Budget your library time.



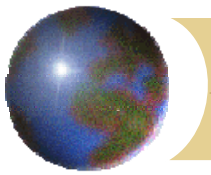
Information Sources

- Pay attention to the source
 - Is it authoritative?
 - Can you trust it as proof?
- Primary source:
 - Created at the time of the event by the parties involved.
- Secondary source:
 - Any sources in print that do not come from a contemporary or government record.
- Note where you find information in case you need to return to that source.



Library of Michigan Collections

- Genealogy Collection
 - ▣ Southwest end of second floor
- Michigan Collection
 - ▣ Northwest end of second floor
- Michigan Documents
 - ▣ Southeast end of second floor

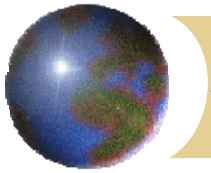


Genealogy Collection

- Materials come from state and local sources, as well as national and international bodies. Resources include:

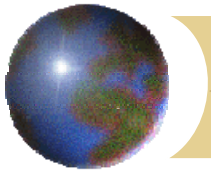
- Cemetery transcriptions
- County and family histories

- Genealogy how-to guides
- Land records
- Maps and atlases
- Military service lists
- Periodicals, such as society newsletters
- Vital records



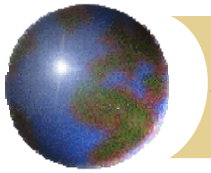
Michigan Collection

- Michigan genealogy materials are shelved with the Michigan Collection.
- The Library also collects current and historical materials related to Michigan, ranging from local government publications to history and biography, business and industry to literature and folklore.



Michigan Documents Collection

- Contains state executive and legislative publications issued since 1805.
- Of special interest:
 - Michigan Soldiers and Sailors
 - Michigan History Magazine
 - Michigan Manual



Census Records

- The U.S. Census allows you to locate your ancestors in a particular place and time.
- The census is taken every 10 years.
- The Library has U.S. census records for all states from 1790 to 1930.
 - Most of the 1890 census was lost in a fire.
- Canadian censuses through 1901
- Questions varied from census to census

State Michigan
County Eaton
Township or other division of county Delta Twp.

Incorporated place
(List proper name and also name of place, as city, village, town, or borough. See instructions.)
Ward of city _____ Block No. _____

Unincorporated place
(List name of any unincorporated place having approximately 100 inhabitants or more. See instructions.)
Institution _____

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE-BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
FIFTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1930
POPULATION SCHEDULE

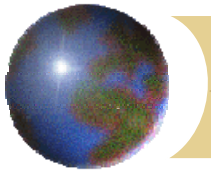
Enumeration District No. 29-12
Supervisor's District No. 18

Sheet No.
1 B

Enumerated by me on April 5-6, 1930, Bartha Griffin

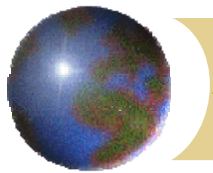
PLACE OF ABODE				RELATION Relationship of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family Include every person living on April 1, 1930. Omit children born since April 1, 1930.	HOME DATA		PERSONAL DESCRIPTION		EDUCATION		PLACE OF BIRTH		MOTHER TONGUE (OR NATIVE LANGUAGE OF FOREIGN BORN)		CITIZENSHIP, ETC.		OCCUPATION AND INDUSTRY		EMPLOYMENT		VETERANS	
1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
31	9 9	Holowucha Am	Head	0	R	you	M	W	2	S	W	W	Michigan	Austria	Austria	12	17	0				
32	10 10	Beruch William	Head	0	R	you	M	W	37	M	19	9	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
33		Ethel	Wife	H			F	W	35	M	17	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
34	11 11	Sharp Charles	Head	0	R	you	M	W	50	M	22	10	you	Michigan	England	6						
35		William	Wife	H			F	W	49	M	21	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
36		Harvard	Son				M	W	16	S	10	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
37		Charles	Son				M	W	13	S	10	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
38		Allen	Son				M	W	12	S	10	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
39		Frank	Son				F	W	8	S	10	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
40	12 12	Macdonald Claude L	Head	0	R	you	M	W	31	M	20	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
41		Janet	Wife	H			F	W	16	M	16	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
42		James	Son				F	W	6	S	10	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
43	13 13	DeClerck August	Head	0	R	you	M	W	60	M	32	10	you	Belgium	Belgium	6						
44		Paul	Wife	H			F	W	61	M	32	10	you	Belgium	Belgium	6						
45		Henry	Son				M	W	18	S	10	10	you	Belgium	Belgium	6						
46		James	Son				M	W	16	S	10	10	you	Belgium	Belgium	6						
47		Charles	Son				M	W	5	S	10	10	you	Belgium	Belgium	6						
48		Richard	Son				M	W	4	S	10	10	you	Belgium	Belgium	6						
49	14 14	Martha Jacob	Head	0	R	you	M	W	46	M	29	10	you	Germany	Germany	6						
50		Anna	Wife	H			F	W	39	M	22	10	you	Germany	Germany	6						
51		Frederick	Son				M	W	15	S	10	10	you	Germany	Germany	6						
52		Harold	Son				M	W	11	S	10	10	you	Germany	Germany	6						
53	15 15	Seibly William	Head	0	R	you	M	W	67	M	33	10	you	Germany	Germany	6						
54		Susan	Wife	H			F	W	56	M	18	10	you	Germany	Germany	6						
55		Charles	Son				M	W	11	S	10	10	you	Germany	Germany	6						
56		Martha	Son				F	W	6	S	10	10	you	Germany	Germany	6						
57	16 16	Barnett Harry	Head	0	R	you	M	W	49	M	21	10	you	Indiana	Indiana	6						
58		John	Wife	H			F	W	45	M	17	10	you	Indiana	Indiana	6						
59		Paul	Son				M	W	22	S	10	10	you	Indiana	Indiana	6						
60		Edna	Son				M	W	20	S	10	10	you	Indiana	Indiana	6						
61		Paul	Son				F	W	14	S	10	10	you	Indiana	Indiana	6						
62		Delora	Son				F	W	12	S	10	10	you	Indiana	Indiana	6						
63		Edith	Son				F	W	10	S	10	10	you	Indiana	Indiana	6						
64		Marion	Son				F	W	5	S	10	10	you	Indiana	Indiana	6						
65		Leonard	Son				M	W	2	S	10	10	you	Indiana	Indiana	6						
66		Charles	Son				M	W	4	S	10	10	you	Indiana	Indiana	6						
67		Barbara	Son				F	W	2	S	10	10	you	Indiana	Indiana	6						
68	17 17	Maya Earl	Head	0	R	you	M	W	41	M	20	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
69		Sam	Wife	H			F	W	39	M	18	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
70		Sam	Son				M	W	9	S	10	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
71	18 18	Harvard Guy	Head	0	R	you	M	W	32	M	22	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
72		John	Wife	H			F	W	36	M	19	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
73	19 19	Swager Anthony J	Head	0	R	you	M	W	44	M	22	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
74		Sam	Wife	H			F	W	43	M	22	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
75		John	Son				M	W	9	S	10	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
76		David	Son				M	W	7	S	10	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
77		Edna	Son				M	W	6	S	10	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
78	20 20	Wardell Lloyd B	Head	0	R	you	M	W	39	M	21	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
79		Anna	Wife	H			F	W	35	M	20	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						
80		Eva	Son				F	W	16	S	10	10	you	Michigan	Michigan	6						

ABBREVIATIONS TO BE USED IN COLUMNS INDICATED:
Col. 5-Indicates the race of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. See instructions.
Col. 6-Indicates the sex of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. See instructions.
Col. 7-Indicates the age of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. See instructions.
Col. 8-Indicates the marital status of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. See instructions.
Col. 9-Indicates the color of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. See instructions.
Col. 10-Indicates the education of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. See instructions.
Col. 11-Indicates the place of birth of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. See instructions.
Col. 12-Indicates the mother tongue of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. See instructions.
Col. 13-Indicates the citizenship of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. See instructions.
Col. 14-Indicates the occupation and industry of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. See instructions.
Col. 15-Indicates the employment of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. See instructions.
Col. 16-Indicates the veteran status of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. See instructions.



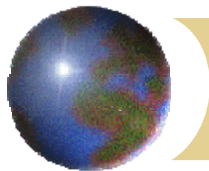
Information on the Census

- Some examples of what is on the 1930:
 - ▣ Names and ages of family members
 - ▣ Information about their housing
 - ▣ Education and occupation
 - ▣ Birthplace of parents
 - ▣ Immigration and naturalization overview



Michigan Vital Records

- State began collecting vital records in 1867.
- Some earlier records exist for some counties.
- Start with the index.
 - This will give you numbers to use to find the record for the person.
- The record, or return, lists the information recorded on the certificate issued.



Michigan Vital Records

The following Michigan vital records and indexes are available at the Library:

● **Births**

- ▣ Index 1867-1915

● **Deaths**

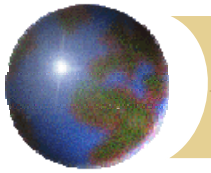
- ▣ Index 1867-1914
- ▣ Returns 1867-1897
- ▣ Certificates 1897-1920

● **Divorces**

- ▣ Index 1897-1969
- ▣ Returns 1897-1922

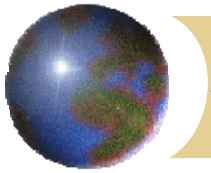
● **Marriages**

- ▣ Index 1867-1921;
1950-1969
- ▣ Returns 1867-1925



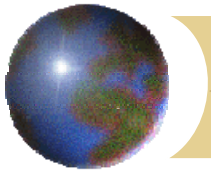
Obtaining Records

- Michigan Department of Community Health
- Michigan County Clerks Directory
 - www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17449_18635_20736---,00.html



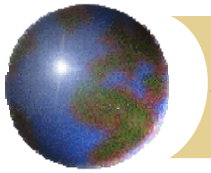
Vitals for Other States

- Check ANSWER, the Library's online catalog, to see what records are available for other states.
- Other sources:
 - Computer databases
 - State library or archives
 - County
 - Local societies
 - LDS Family History Centers



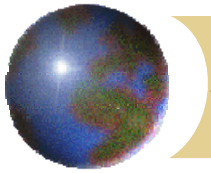
Newspapers

- The Library has an extensive collection of Michigan newspapers.
 - Some titles date to early 1800s.
- Use newspapers as secondary sources for:
 - Announcements of life events, obituaries
 - News articles
- Most are not indexed, so it is helpful to know exact or approximate date



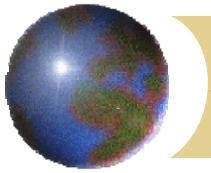
Immigration Records

- Passenger lists cover major U.S. ports:
 - Baltimore, Boston, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia
- Lists range from 1565 to 1954.
- Most lists include:
 - Ship name, captain's name, port and date of departure and arrival, list of passengers
- Helps to know year of immigration.



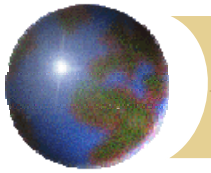
Naturalization Records

- Paperwork to become a U.S. citizen
- Declarations of Intent:
 - **Before 1906:** Name, date, birthplace, port and date of entry
 - **After 1906:** Residence, occupation, birth date or age, nationality, last foreign residence, name of ship, marital status



Local Histories

- Almost every county in Michigan has at least one county history with biographical sketches
 - ▣ Search ANSWER for: midland county mich history.
- It's useful to browse other books in a particular county area to see what else is available for the area you are researching.



Other Resources

- Cemetery Records

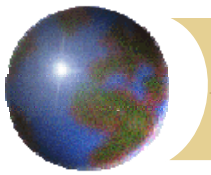
- May include important dates, military service

- Military Records

- Service records, pensions, unit histories

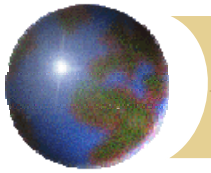
- City Directories

- Trace ancestors' movements annually



Heritage Quest

- Census images 1790-1910
- Images from books and periodicals
- Search for people or places
- Browse publications
- Available to all Michigan residents through MeL
 - <http://mel.org/>



Genealogy Databases

- Family Search

- <http://www.familysearch.org/>

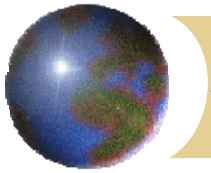
- Records Search Pilot in *Search Records*

- Ancestry Library Edition

- World Vital Records

- Footnote

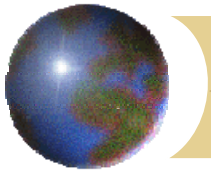
- Origins Network for Libraries



Cyndi's List

■ Comprehensive collection of Internet
Genealogy resources

- <http://www.cyndislist.com>
- Excellent starting point



Visiting the Library of Michigan

- Helpful to have specific goals.
- Use ANSWER, the Library's online catalog.
 - www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan
- Ask for help!
- Contact information:
 - (517) 373-1300
 - librarian@michigan.gov